



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Manassas National  
Battlefield Park

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## Manassas National Battlefield News Release

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### **New Temporary Museum Exhibits to be Unveiled at the Manassas National Battlefield Park**

On Monday, July 18, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. Manassas Battlefield Superintendent Ed Clark will preside over the unveiling of a new exhibit case in the park visitor center's museum gallery. This exhibit case will house four temporary displays supplementing the park's permanent museum exhibits that focus on the First Battle of Manassas, fought on July 21, 1861. The newly installed exhibits will be in place in time for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the first major battle of the Civil War which will be observed at the battlefield park from Wednesday, July 21 through Sunday, July 24, 2011.

The new exhibit case will feature several noteworthy objects currently on loan to the park for the sesquicentennial of First Manassas. These include a Mexican Army officer's sword belt plate that Thomas J. Jackson brought home as a trophy from the Mexican War and, according to his widow, is believed to have been worn by Jackson at First Manassas. The buckle along with a double-barrel percussion shotgun initially carried by John Singleton Mosby in 1861 when he joined the Washington Mounted Rifles, a company assigned to J.E.B. Stuart's 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Cavalry, have been generously loaned to the park by Patti and Greg Paxton of Winchester, Virginia.

Another object to be displayed is an original oil painting of the Second Vermont Infantry at Bull Run by noted landscape artist James Hope, a veteran of the regiment. This important work of art has been graciously loaned by Howard Coffin of Montpelier, Vermont. The silk flag of Company K, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry along with an original Keith Rocco painting entitled, "Baptism at Manassas," depicting the same flag being carried into battle on Henry Hill will also be displayed. These last two items are on loan to the park through the courtesy of a descendant of George Washington Kurtz, a Winchester, Virginia native who carried the flag at First Manassas.